GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1625
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2005
OPENING OF CLOSED DRUGS COMPANIES
Mandal Shri Sanat Kumar;Mehta Shri Alok Kumar;Yadav Shri Sita Ram

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have prepared any plan for opening the closed units of fertilizer and drug industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to invite the participation of private sector in this regard;

(d) whether there is any proposal to restart the various Indian Drugs and Pharmaceutical Limited (IDPL) unit with private participation; and

(e) if so, the details, thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN):

(a) to (c) So far as the fertilizer units are concerned, the Government has taken a decision on 5.9.2002 to close down Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation (HFC); Fertilizer Corporation of India (FCI) excepting its Jodhpur Mining Organisation (JMO) which have been hived off into a new company; and Pyrites, Phosphates & Chemicals Ltd. (PPCL) on 5.6.2003 due to their techno-economic non-viability. In respect of Projects & Development India Ltd. (PDIL), the Cabinet has approved closure of Research & Development Division and Sindri unit of Engineering & consultancy (E&C) Division and revival of the unit of E&C Division located at Noida and Baroda and the Catalyst Division at Sindri. However, in the light of the Government`s Common Minimum Programme (CMP), the issue regarding the feasibility of revival of the closed Fertilizer Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) based on market demand and their techno-economic viability has been prepared by Projects & Development India Limited (PDIL), a Public Sector Undertaking under the administrative control of Department of Fertilizers. The revival of these units will depend on the outcome of the examination of the report of PDIL.

There is no plan to open the closed units of pharmaceutical PSUs where BIFR has issued winding up orders and the company is closed and the employees have been released under VSS except in case of IDPL, where an Expert Committee has been set up to conduct techno-economic viability study for rehabilitation of the company.

(d) and (e) There is no proposal to restart the various IDPL units with private participation.